

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (canceled):

Claim 2 (currently amended): A security method for use in a communication system, the security method comprising:

receiving an IP packet including a source address and a destination address;

obtaining physical location information indicating the location of a user device which is the source of said IP packet prior to delivery of the packet to the destination address, and wherein determining the location of the user device further includes performing a database lookup operation to retrieve a geographic location stored in association with edge router and port information;

determining, as a function of the obtained physical location information, an action to be taken, wherein determining an action to be taken includes:

comparing the obtained physical location information to information listing physical locations authorized to obtain access to a service for which security is to be provided.

Claim 3 (original): The security method of claim 2, further comprising:

dropping said packet when said comparing does not result in a match between the obtained physical location information and the information listing physical locations authorized to obtain access to the service.

Claim 4 (original): The security method of claim 2, wherein said service is one of a banking service, video on demand service and a music on demand service.

Claim 5 (original): The security method of claim 2, further comprising:

forwarding said packet to the destination address when said comparing results in a match between the obtained physical location information and the information listing physical locations authorized to obtain access to the service.

Claim 6 (canceled):

Claim 7 (currently amended): A security method for use in a communication system, the security method comprising:

receiving an IP packet including a source address and a destination address;

obtaining physical location information indicating the location of a user device which is the source of said IP packet prior to delivery of the packet to the destination address, including transmitting a location information request message including the source address of the received IP packet and receiving in response to said transmitted location information request message, information corresponding to the location of the user device;

determining, as a function of the obtained physical location information, an action to be taken, and

determining the location of the user device from edge router and port information obtained from an edge router, wherein the determining the location of the user device further includes performing a database lookup operation to

retrieve a geographic location stored in association with said edge router and port information.

Claim 8 (canceled):

Claim 9 (previously presented): A security method for use in a communication system, the security method comprising:

(a) receiving an IP packet including a source address and a destination address;

(b) obtaining physical location information indicating the location of a user device which is the source of said IP packet, by:

(i) transmitting a location information request message including the source address of the received IP packet,

(ii) receiving in response to said transmitted location information request message, information corresponding to the location of the user device determined from edge router and port information obtained from an edge router and a device identifier associated with the source address of said IP packet;

(iii) performing a database lookup operation to retrieve a geographic location stored in association with said edge router and port information, and

(iv) comparing the received device identifier to a list of device identifiers corresponding to stolen devices, and

(c) determining, as a function of the obtained physical location information, an action to be taken.

Claim 10 (original): The security method of claim 9, wherein said device identifier is a MAC address.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method of claim 9, further comprising:

generating a message indicating the detection of a stolen device when said comparing step detects a match between the received device identifier and a device identifier in said list of device identifiers corresponding to stolen devices.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method of claim 11, wherein said generated message includes information indicating the geographic location where the identified stolen device is being used.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein said geographic location is a post office address.

Claims 14-15 (canceled):

Claim 16 (currently amended): A security device for use in a communication system in which IP packets are transmitted, the device comprising:

means for receiving an IP packet including a source address and a destination address;

means for obtaining physical location information indicating the location of a user device which is the source of said IP packet prior to delivery of the packet to the destination address, wherein determining the location of the user device further includes performing a database lookup operation to retrieve a geographic location stored in association with edge router and port information; and

means for determining, as a function of the obtained physical location information, an action to be taken;

a database of physical location information listing physical locations authorized to obtain access to said service; and

wherein said means for determining an action to be taken includes a comparator for comparing the obtained physical location information to information listing physical locations authorized to obtain access to a service for which security is to be provided.

Claim 17 (original): The security device of claim 16, further comprising:

means for dropping said packet when said comparing does not result in a match between the obtained physical location information and the information listing physical locations authorized to obtain access to the service.

Claim 18 (original): The security device of claim 2, wherein said service is one of a banking service, video on demand service and a music on demand service.

Claims 19-31 (canceled):

Claim 32 (previously presented): A location verification method, the method comprising;

receiving an IP packet including a source address and a destination address;

determining from said source address the physical location from which said IP packet was sent prior to delivery of the packet to the destination address;

comparing the determined physical location information to expected information indicating the expected source of an IP packet; and

determining a reporting error when said determined physical location information does not match the expected physical location information.

Claim 33 (original): The location verification method of claim 32, further comprising:

transmitting a message including information on the determined reporting error to a law enforcement authority.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The location verification method of claim 33, further comprising:

including the determined physical location information in said message.

Claim 35 (original): The location verification method of claim 34, further comprising:

identifying the device transmitting said IP packet from a MAC address determined from a database associating said MAC address with said source address.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A location verification method, the method comprising;

receiving an IP packet including a source address wherein said IP packet is transmitted from a bracelet worn by a parolee and wherein said IP packet includes parolee identification information;

determining from said source address the physical location from which said IP packet was sent;

comparing the determined physical location information to expected information indicating the expected source of an IP packet;

determining a reporting error when said determined physical location information does not match the expected physical location information;

transmitting a message including information on the determined reporting error to a law enforcement authority;

including the determined physical location information in said message;

identifying the device transmitting said IP packet from a MAC address determined from a database associating said MAC address with said source address; and

including in said message information obtained from said IP packet identifying the parolee.

Claim 37 (original): The location verification method of claim 33, further comprising:

determining if said IP packet was sent at a predetermined time during which a location reporting message was scheduled to be transmitted.